

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-13 ACDA-19 PM-07 DODE-00 DPW-01

RSR-01 /090 W

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R 221151 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3605

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11265

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: DAILY MR 3 SITREP 22 JUNE 1973

FOL SENT ACTION SAIGON AND RPTD FOR YOUR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 0220

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VC

SUBJ: DAILY MR3 SITREP - 22 JUNE 1973

1. MR 3 REMAINED FAIRLY QUIET IN 24 HOURS ENDING 0800 JUNE 22.
THERE WERE 16 MILITARY CLASHES REPORTED BY THE MR 3 TOC -
8 ATTACKS BY FIRE (TWO OVER 20 ROUNDS), THREE GROUNDS CONTACTS,
TWO SMALL ARMS HARRASSMENTS, AND THREE MININGS. LOSSES WERE
SIX RVN (THREE CIVILIANS) KILLED AND SEVEN (ONE CIVILIAN)
WOUNDED, AND 13 COMMUNISTS KNOWN KILLED. TWO RALLIERS
LEFT THE COMMUNISTS, AND THREE MORE ARVN SOLDIERS (SEE JUNE 18
SITREP) JOINED ARVN FORCES NEAR PHUOC BINH DISTRICT SEAT,
PHUOC LONG PROVINCE, AFTER ESCAPING FROM A COMMUNIST POW CAMP.
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2. THERE WERE FIVE INCIDENTS IN PHUOC TUY PROVINCE, INCLUDING TWO SHELLINGS (CAUSING NO CASUALTIES) OF THE 3 RD COMPANY OF THE 371 ST RF BATTALION GUARDING THE RECENTLY OPENED PROVINCIAL ROUTE 44 BETWEEN LONG HAI AND PHUOC HAI, TWO SHELLINGS OF RF COMPANIES (ONE OF MORE THAN 20 ROUNDS, NEITHER CAUSING CASUALTIES) IN THE STILL- CONTESTED LONG PHUOC VILLAGE AREA, AND ONE SMALL ARMS HARRASSMENT OF A PF PLATOON WEST OF NUI DAT WHICH CAUSED ONE PF KIA.

3. HEAVIEST CLASH REPORTED WAS IN TAY NINH, AT XT375330, 7 KMS SW OF KHIEH HANH DISTRICT SEAT, WHERE COMMUNISTS ARE SAID TO HAVE SHELLED 60 ROUNDS OF 61 MM AND 30 ROUNDS B40 INTO LOCATION OF 313 TH RF COMPANY, WOUNDING ONE RF. TEN COMMUNISTS REPORTED KILLED; LOG DOES NOT SAY HOW, BUT WE HEAR FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT RVNAF FORCES ARE SWEEPING THIS AREA.

4. THERE WERE THREE INCIDENTS IN HAU NGHIA, TWO EACH IN BINH DUONG AND GIA DINH, ONE ADDITIONAL INCIDENT IN TAY NINH, AND ONE EACH IN LONG KHANH AND PHUOC LONG.

5. JUNE 31 BINH DUONG PROVINCE CHIEF NGUYEN VAN CUA TOLD CONGEN THAT THE PROVINCE HAS BEEN QUIET THE FIRST WEEK OF CEASE- FIRE II, CREDITING RVNAF DEFENSES WITH DISCOURAGING NVA/ VC ATTACKS. CUA ALSO SAID THAT RVNAF HAD NOT VIOLATED THE CEASE- FIRE, AND HAD NOT EVEN FIRED ARTILLERY EXCEPT IN REACTION (COMMENT: WHICH WE KNOW NOT TO BE TRUE. END COMMENT.) HE SAID THAT INTER- PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY 1 A IS NOW OPEN TO PHU GIAO AND A LITTLE BEYOND, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE VC CHECKPOINTS BEGINNING NORTH OF PHU GIAO. HE SAID THERE ARE REPORTS OF PEOPLE BEING BROUGHT INTO THAT AREA FROM CAMBODIA FOR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE PRG. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE SAME THING BEING DONE IN TRI TAM DISTRICT, CUA SAID THAT THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE AND HOMES THERE, BUT NO MORE. COMMENT: VNAF HAS DESTROYED THEM ALL. END COMMENT.

6. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE CHANCES FOR PEACE, AND ABOUT HIS OPINION OF THE PARIS JOINT COMMUNIQUE, CUA SAID THAT THE 14 POINTS WERE BEING EXPLAINED TO ALL MILITARY COMMANDERS, CIVILIAN OFFICIALS, AND THE PEOPLE POINT BY POINT. HE SAID THAT THE GVN WAS PORTRAYING IT AS ANOTHER GVN VICTORY. WHEN ASKED OF THE GVN TRUSTED THE COMMUNISTS ANY MORE THAN BEFORE
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AS A RESULT OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, CUA SAID THAT THE GVN WANTED TO, BUT THAT IN HIS HEART HE COULD NOT, BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE. HE ALSO SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE ELECTIONS THIS YEAR, BECAUSE THE COMMUNISTS WILL NOT AGREE.

7. HE CLAIMED THAT WPJA COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE NOT YET TRIED

TO CONTACT RVNAF, WWND SAID THAT ALL HIS COMMANDERS HAVE ORDERS TO CALL MNM IF SUCH CONTACT IS MADE. HE THEN WOULD CALL LTG MINH, MR 3 CG.

8. CUA PROMISED TO GRANT THE ARRO ACCESS TO HIS REGULAR BRIEFINGS, AND TO SEE HIM EVERY OTHER NIGHT. HE DENIED HE WAS REFUSING TO COOPERATE WITH THE AMERICANS (AS WE HAVE REPORTED IN RECENT SITREPS).

9. IN AN OPEN LETTER DATED MAY 31 AND ISSUED IN TAY NINH PROVINCE ADDRESSED TO THE PROVINCE CHIEF, THE " LIBERATION ARMY" CASTIGATES THE GVN FOR NOT OBSERVING THE PARIS AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY THE ARVNAF IS TAKEN TO TASK FOR FIRING ARTILLERY AND ORGANIZING AIR STRIKES IN ' LIBERATED' AREAS. THE COMMUNISTS DEMAND THAT THE GVN IMPLEMENT COMPLETELY THE PARIS AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY HALT TO ALL OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS, DELINEATIONS OF ZONES OF CONTROL, AND RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS. WHILE PROMISING TO CARRY OUT THE AGREEMENT THEMSELVES, THE VC/ NVA THREATEN THE GVN WITH 'PUNISHMENT' IF RVNAF VIOLATIONS CONTINUE. FINALLY, THE COMMUNISTS DEFINE THE GOALS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AS REUNIFICATION OF VIET- NAM IN A SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION AND MUTUAL TOLERATION. THEY GAVE LETTER TO PEOPLE TO GIVE PROVINCE CHIEF, BUT PEOPLE WERE AFRAID AND GAVE IT TO OUR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH TEAM INSTEAD. WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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